



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Pennsylvania

615 Chestnut Street

Suite 1250

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106-4476

(215) 861-8200

April 16, 2003

NEWS RELEASE

United States Attorney Patrick L. Meehan today announced the unsealing of an indictment¹ against Coretha Sneed, Ishtar Gadson, Michael Anderson, Nakeisha Davis, Katisha Devan, Nicole Guions, Keysharina Hurtt, Vernell Devan, Adrienne Albright, Monica Hannah, Alicia Sanchez, Erricka Pender, Tanya Williams, Doris McCullough, Charles Moore, and Kim Gipson, charging them with conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371. In addition, with the exception of Vernell Devan, who is only charged in Count 1 of the indictment, each defendant is charged with one count of theft concerning a program receiving federal funds, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 666. During the time of the offenses charged in the indictment, Charmaine Mabry, charged elsewhere, was employed by the Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) as a Section 8 Eligibility Department. Under the Section 8 Voucher Program, PHA maintained a waiting list of applicants seeking to be chosen to receive a voucher to obtain Section 8 housing subsidies. With few exceptions, families were selected by PHA for inclusion into the Voucher Program by the use of periodic lottery drawings. Throughout 2001, there were approximately 27,000 applications in the applicant pool awaiting Section 8 housing subsidies. This indictment is a part of the investigation which resulted in the three indictments, which were unsealed on March 27, 2003, in which 13 defendants were charged for their parts in obtaining or attempting to obtain Section 8 housing subsidies through Mabry.

Each of defendants in these indictments is charged with making or assisting in making payoffs to Charmaine Mabry in order to bypass the PHA lottery system and thereby obtain a Section 8 voucher through Charmaine Mabry. None of the defendants who received a voucher through Charmaine Mabry were then eligible to receive the benefit of Section 8 housing subsidies at the time they received their voucher. As a result of the vouchers that the Charmaine Mabry caused to be awarded as part of the her scheme, Section 8 housing subsidies in the amount of at least \$74,582 were paid on behalf of payers, including these defendants, who were not then eligible to receive them. It is also charged that Charmaine Mabry paid referral fees to individuals who referred others to corruptly obtain vouchers and housing subsidies under the voucher program to which they were not then entitled.

¹An Indictment is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

April 16, 2003

Page 2

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DOB</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>ATTORNEY</u>
Adrienne Albright	11/5/58	1543 N. 60 th Street	Mike Holstein, Esq.
Michael Anderson	4/18/73	50 N. Ruby Street	Marc Cedrone, Esq.
Nakeisha Davis	3/31/77	50 N. Ruby Street	Ed Daley, Esq.
Katisha Devan	8/14/76	1711 Conestoga Street	Richard D. Malmed, Esq.
Vernell Devan	11/2/60	5923 Warrington Avenue	William T. Cannon, Esq.
Ishtar Gadson	3/29/73	5231 Addison Street	Gerald Ingram, Esq.
Kim Gipson	5/31/63	302 E. Marshall St., Norristown	Robert Levant, Esq.
Nicole Guions	2/1/70	132 S. 54 th Street	
Monica Hannah	9/18/59	4317 Fairmount Avenue	Maggie Grasso, Esq.
Keysharina Hurtt	1/16/71	5531 Oxford Avenue	John Connor, Esq.
Doris McCullough	4/22/69	3856 Conshocken Avenue	Douglas L. Dolfman, Esq.
Charles Moore	4/15/61	1331 Barnett Street	Cary B. McCain, Esq.
Erricka Pender	3/13/70	439 Simpson Street	Elizabeth Hey, Esq.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DOB</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>ATTORNEY</u>
Alicia Sanchez	11/12/60	5428 Euclid Street	Wayne Maynard, Esq.
Coretha Sneed	7/17/71	1518 Etting Street	
Tanya Williams	8/17/70	3911 Fairmount Avenue	Marc Neff, Esq.

April 16, 2003

Page 4

CHARGES AND MAXIMUM POSSIBLE PENALTIES

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CHARGES</u>	<u>MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SENTENCE</u>
Adrienne Albright	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count 7)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment
Michael Anderson	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count 4)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment
Nakeisha Davis	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count 4)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment
Katisha Devan	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count 5)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment
Vernell Devan	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371) (Count 1)	5 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$250,000 fine, and a \$100 special assessment
Ishtar Gadson	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count 3)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment

April 16, 2003

Page 5

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CHARGES</u>	<u>MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SENTENCE</u>
Kim Gipson	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count 11)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment
Nicole Guions	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count 6)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment
Monica Hannah	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count 9)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment
Keysharina Hurtt	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count 8)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment
Doris McCullough	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count 13)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment
Charles Moore	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count 11)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment

April 16, 2003

Page 6

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CHARGES</u>	<u>MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SENTENCE</u>
Erricka Pender	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count 12)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment
Alicia Sanchez	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count 10)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment
Coretha Sneed	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count ~)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment
Tanya Williams	Conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371); Theft concerning a program receiving federal funds (18 U.S.C. § 666) (Count 14)	15 years imprisonment, a three year period of supervised release, a \$500,000 fine, and a \$200 special assessment

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the PHA Office of the Inspector General and has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Joel D. Goldstein.

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
EASTERN DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA
Suite 1250, 615 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106**

**Contact: Rich Maneri
215-861-8525**

*COPIES OF NEWS MEMOS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT
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April 16, 2003
Page 7

April 16, 2003
Page 8